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JUL 20 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/715,576  
Applicants : *Kong et al.*  
Filed : November 17, 2000  
Art Unit : 1763  
Examiner : Ram N. Kackar  
Docket No. : 5000.89A  
Customer No. : 21176

(Confirmation No. 5716)

**OFFICIAL**

Date: July 20, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

This responds to the Office Action mailed April 5, 2004. The undersigned attorney appreciates the Examiner's thorough examination of the application and responds herein to the issues presented. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on Page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on Page 3 of this paper.